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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3940

INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS KABUL 001214

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR SCA/A, IO/UNESCO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OEXC PREL SOCI UNESCO AF

SUBJECT: AFGHAN ATTENDANCE AT UNESCO CONFERENCE: YOUTH AT THE CROSSROADS - A FUTURE WITHOUT VIOLENT RADICALIZATION

REF: A. 08 STATE 46958 <u>¶</u>B. 08 STATE 46755

- 11. (U) This is an action request. See paragraph 3.
- 12. (U) The Afghan Ministry of Education nominated Kabul University Acting Chancellor Professor Mokamel Alkozai to participate in the UNESCO conference in Bahrain June 15-17: Youth at the Crossroads A Future without Violent Radicalization (REF A). Given continuing reports that extremists are recruiting on the Kabul University campus, we strongly support his attendance. We believe it would be in the USG's interest to have a well-placed Kabul University campus official participate in a solutions-oriented, best practices conference.
- 13. (U) The Afghan Government does not have the money to send Professor Alkozai to the conference. We request the Department consider funding Professor Alkozai's travel and accommodation expenses.

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